



Families Sharing Dinner

of Participants: 15-30 Prepared By: Elaine Bowling Chapter: Lakewood Ranch High State: Florida

Activity Goals & Objectives (Specify skills/information that will be learned.)	As part of our Families First program, we want to have the preschool children and their families share meals which represent their cultures. The Early Childhood Education students will help the children plan for this event, inform the parents, and will host the event.
Education and National FACS Standards Addressed:	Area of Study: 13.0 Interpersonal Relationships Comprehensive Standards: Demonstrate respectful and caring relationships in the family, workplace and community. Content Standards: 13.3 Demonstrate communication skills that contribute to positive relationships. 13.5 Demonstrate teamwork and leadership skills in the family, workplace, and community.
Materials	Meal planning sheet Printed invitation information, folded Table cloths, plates, flatware, cups and napkins Construction paper Markers
Activity Timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One class period to plan with preschool children (in small groups of 15 minutes) ▪ One class for the actual meal with the families ▪ 10 minutes during circle time to evaluate with the children
Information (Give and/or demonstrate necessary information)	ECE students will discuss with preschool teacher the cultural diversity of the group. A date will be determined for the family meal. ECE students will prepare their lesson plans for the small group where they will gather information from the children about their family mealtimes, favorite foods and traditions. Also a note will be sent home to the parents encouraging them to dress in their culture and bring items as table decorations.
Activity (Describe the independent activity to reinforce this lesson)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ECE student will work with a preschool child to plan their favorite meal. 2. Preschoolers will make an invitation for their parents to be sent home that day. 3. A letter explaining the activity will be attached to the invitation. 4. The day of the meal, the ECE students will set up the classroom. 5. All students and parents will enjoy the meal together. ECE students will be encouraged to ask the families questions regarding their culture during the meal. Take pictures! 6. ECE students will clean up the area.
Activity Wrap-up (Discuss outcomes, give examples...)	During circle time the following day, ask the preschool children about the meal. On chart paper, write their responses and display for the parents to view. Add any pictures that were taken of the children with their families.
Other Resources	Age appropriate books on cultural diversity

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